

THE PRINCIPAL
A C T S
OF THE
General Assembly
OF THE
CHURCH
OF
SCOTLAND;

Conveened at *EDINBURGH*, the 14th Day of *May* 1719.

Collected and extracted from the Records, by the Clerk thereof.



EDINBURGH,

Printed by the Successors of *Andrew Anderson*, Printers to
the Church of *SCOTLAND*, M. DCC. XIX.

THE PRINCIPAL
ACTS

OF THE

General Assembly

OF THE

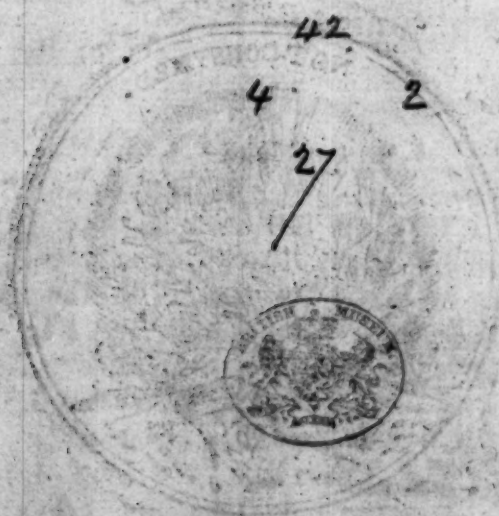
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SCOTLAND

Convened at Edinburgh the 14th day of May 1719.

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Printed by James Ballantyne, Edinburgh, 1719.

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SCOTLAND.

Holden and begun at *EDINBURGH*, upon *Thursday*
 the 14th Day of *May*, 1719, and ending the 23^d Day
 of that same Month and Year:

I.

ACT Appointing the *KING's* Commission to *JOHN*
Earl of ROTHES, to be recorded.

At *EDINBURH* 14th *May* 1719, Sess. 1.



THE General Assembly of the
 Ministers and Ruling Elders of
 this National Church of *Scot-*
land, being convened and con-
 stituted, there was produced
 to them, by the Right Ho-
 nourable, *John Earl of Rother*,
 His Majesty's Commissioner,
 sealed with the Seal appoint-
 ed by the *Treaty of Union* be-
 twixt the two Kingdoms of
Scotland and *England*, to be
 kept and used in *Scotland*, in Place of the Great Seal of
Scotland, of the same Tenor with the Commission granted
 by his Majesty to the foresaid Earl, in the Year One thou-
 sand seven hundred and fifteen, and subsequent Assemblies,
 constituting him His Majesty's High Commissioner, and
 Representative in this Assembly; which Commission, be-
 ing publickly read with all due Honour and Respect, is
 ordered by this Assembly to be recorded in their Books,
 to remain therein, *ad futuram Rei Memoriam.*

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II. The

*The KING's most gracious Letter to
the General Assembly, presented to
them by His Majesty's Commissioner,
14th May 1719.*

GEORGE R. T. O.

Right Reverend and Well beloved, We Greet you well, under the full Assurance of the constant Zeal and Affection of the Church of Scotland, to Our Person and Government, We do with great Willingness countenance your General Assembly at this Time, being Confident, That you will now meet with the same good Disposition, and conduct your selves with that Temper and Unanimity as you have hitherto done.

You may most firmly assure your selves of Our ready and cheerful Concurrence in whatever Methods shall be taken for the promoting true Religion and Piety, the discouraging Profaneness and Immorality, and for the preventing the Growth of Popery.

The Differences which have for some Time been among you on Account of the Oaths, I hope, shall now be happily removed, and I must recommend it to you to be upon your Guard against the Practices of such as would endeavour to raise unhappy Divisions among you, there being nothing that can tend more to your Honour and Welfare, than Concord and brotherly Love.

We have again made Choice of our Right Trusty, and Well-beloved Cousin, John Earl of Rothes, to represent Our Person in this Assembly, whose known Abilities, to discharge that Trust, together with his former Services therein, will, We doubt not, make him acceptable to you, and so We bid you heartily farewell. Given at Our Court at St. James's the 23^d April 1719, in the fifth Year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command.

ROXBURGH,

*Directed to the Right Reverend
and Well-beloved, The Moderator,
Ministers and Elders of the General Assembly
of the Church of SCOT-
LAND.*

III. The

*The General Assembly's ANSWER to
the KING's most gracious LETTER.*

Edinburgh 16th May 1719. Sess. 3.

May it please your Majesty,

THe great Honour done us by your Majesty's most gracious Letter, and your Royal Goodness in condescending to signify your Satisfaction with former General Assemblies, adds new Life and Vigour to that constant Zeal and Affection to your Majesty's Person and Government, which the Members of this Church reckon their Duty and their Glory, and lays us under the strongest Obligations to conduct our selves with that Temper and Unanimity that becomes us, and to endeavour in the best Manner we are able, to approve our selves to God, and to Your Majesty.

The great Encouragement we have by Your Majesty's assuring us of Your ready and cheerful Concurrence in whatever Methods shall be taken for promoting true Religion and Piety, the discouraging Profaneness and Immorality, and preventing the Growth of Popery, renders us inexcusable, should we be wanting on our Part, to exert our selves to the utmost towards obtaining these good Ends.

Your Majesty's extraordinary Condescension in taking Care to have the Differences amongst us, on Account of the Oaths, happily removed, is an unparalleled Instance of Royal Goodness, for which we can never be sufficiently thankful; and as it gives us the comfortable Prospect of happy Effects to follow upon it, so it calls us to guard our selves with the strictest Care and Watchfulness against the Practices of such as would endeavour to raise unhappy Divisions amongst us, and whatever may lessen that Concord and brotherly Love, which tends so much to the Honour and Welfare of this Church.

The Earl of Rothes his steady Adherence at all Times to the Interest of the happy Revolution, and Protestant Succession, his great Zeal for Your Majesty's Service, his good Affection to the Church of Scotland, the Proof he has formerly given of his eminent Abilities for discharging the high Trust wherewith he is now clothed, render Your Majesty's Choice of him to represent your Royal Person in this Assembly most acceptable to us.

The ACTS of the

That Almighty God may plentifully enrich Your Majesty with his best Blessings, and advance Your Glorious Designs for the Happiness of Your own People, and the Good of the whole Protestant Interest; that His watchful Providence may be Your Protection, and return You in Safety to great Britain; that he may eminently bless their Royal Highnesses, the Prince and Princess of Wales, their Royal Offspring, and all Your Royal Family; that as He has signally appeared in defeating the Attempts of Your Majesty's Enemies, so He would continue His Goodness in supporting Your righteous Cause, bless and direct your Councils, and prosper Your Arms for preserving the Quiet of your Dominions, and restoring the Peace of Europe; and that after a long and prosperous Reign on Earth, Your Majesty may be crowned with immortal Glory in Heaven, are the most fervent Prayers of,

May it please Your Majesty,

Your Majesty's most faithful, most obedient, and most loyal Subjects,

The Ministers and Elders met in this National Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Signed in our Presence, in our Name, and as our Appointment, by

JAMES GRIERSON Moderator.

IV.

ACT for preventing the Growth of Popery, for Encouragement of Ministers, and the Settlement and Provision of Schools.

Edinburgh 18th May 1719. Sess. 4

THE General Assembly taking to their serious Consideration the extraordinary Growth of Popery in several Places of Scotland, do, for preventing thereof, exhort and enjoin all Presbyteries and particular Ministers, and Kirk Sessions, to have a watchful Eye on the Papists within their

their Bounds, and to take up Lists of their Names, and to send the same to the Commission of the General Assembly, to be laid before his Majesty's Advocate, or to be otherwise used by the Commission, as they shall see Cause; and that the said Presbyteries, Ministers and Kirk Sessions, be at all Pains to reclaim Papists, and that they observe what is enjoined for that End, by the eighth Act of the General Assembly, Anno 1707; and likewise, that Presbyteries, in whose Bounds there are Papists, do give in Informations against them, according to the 11th Act of the General Assembly, 1714; and the General Assembly likewise appoints Presbyteries to hold Visitations in those Parishes where Popery abounds, and enquire into the Circumstances thereof, the Number of catechizable Persons therein, how many of them are Protestants, and how many Papists, and who of them are Apostates; as also, what is the Length and Breadth of such Parishes, and what the real Rent, and also the valued Rent of each Heretor extends to, that so it may be known where new Erections are practicable, and how much each Parish may afford toward the Maintenance of Schools, conform to Law. And, Further, The General Assembly appoints, That at these Visitations the Churches and Manse be also inspected by Tradesmen in a legal Manner; and that where Ministers do want Glebes, Grass, or other Accommodations, the Course prescribed by Law be followed, and that an Extract of what is done in the Premises be sent to the Procurator and Agent for the Church, that Diligence may be taken out thereon, according to Law. And in like Manner, where Schools are wanting in any Parish, the General Assembly hereby appoints, That Presbyteries make legal Intimation to the Heretors and Parishoners to meet on a certain Day, and at a certain Place to stent themselves for a Salary to a Schoolmaster, and for the needful Accommodations for him, as is appointed by Act 5th, Par. 1st. Cha. 1st. Anno 1633, And Act 26th, Sess. 2d Parl. King William, Anno 1696, and that they appoint a Committee to meet with them; and if the Heretors and Parishoners, and failing the Heretors, the most Part of the Parishoners do meet, they may proceed to stent, and also to proportion the Money laid on; But if they either meet not, or being met, do fail in settling a Salary, and providing a House for the Schoolmaster, then, and in that Case, the Assembly appoints the Presbytery to present a Petition to the Commissioners of Supply, or any five, or more of them, with an Extract of the valued Rent of the Parish, and crave that the Commissioners may, in the Terms of the foresaid Acts of Parliament, settle a School; and if the Commissioners refuse or shift the doing of it, that Instruments be taken against them, and thereupon a Process be commenced before the

Lords of Council and Session, who have already in the like Cases provided Salaries and Houses for Schoolmasters. And if when all this is done, the Heretors will not call a qualified Schoolmaster, the General Assembly appoints and requires the Presbytery, after the expiring of one Year, to order Intimation to be made from the Pulpit to the Heretors and Parishoners, to meet upon a certain Day, in Order to elect and present one to be Schoolmaster; and if as that Time they do it not, the Presbytery is appointed to present one; and after Edicts duly published with Respect to him, to admit and settle him. And, *Lastly*, Where competent Stipends are not provided in Parishes where Popery abounds, or where the Stipends are paid in small parcels, the General Assembly appoints the Presbytery concerned to cause draw up a State of these Stipends, how, and by whom they are paid, and also an Account of the real Rent of each Heretor in such Parishes, and send the same to the Procurator and Agent for the Church, who, upon Receipt thereof, are ordered to commence Processes for settling of competent Stipends to the Ministers; where the same is not already done; and the Assembly appoints the Expences of Processes for settling of Stipends and Schools in Parishes where Popery abounds, to be born out of the Church's publick Money.

Y.

Representation of the Society in SCOTLAND,
for propagating Christian Knowledge, with an Act
thereupon.

Edinburgh May 19. 1719. Sess. 5.

TH E which Day, there was again brought in from the Committee for Bills, a Representation, the Tenor whereof follows, *Unto the Right Reverend and Honourable the Moderator, and remanent Members of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.* The Committee of the Society in Scotland for propagating Christian Knowledge, humbly represents, "That the venerable Assemblies, and other Judicatures of this Church, having all along shewed so much Zeal for the Advancement of the Society's Undertaking; they find themselves bound in Duty, in the Society's Name, to make a publick Acknowledgement of it, and for the Encouragement of the Church, to continue her kind Assistance to the Society in their Work; To lay before this venerable Assembly a short Account of the Success, with which it has pleased GOD to bless their Endeavours,

: yours,

vours, and to show them. That not only did a Multitude of charitable People of all Ranks, contribute liberally in the ordinary publick Collections, but diverse Persons have, beside their first Donations in common with others, mortified considerable Sums to the Society's Stock, whereby it is now increased to upwards of Seven thousand Pounds Sterling, and the Society and their Committee, have not only taken Care to lay out this on good and unquestionable Security, but have, upon the yearly Annual rent thereof, erected, and have determined instantly to erect to the Number of Forty two Schools in such Places of the Highlands, and Islands, as appeared to them, from the best Informations, to stand most in need of their Assistance, viz. Kintail in Strathnaver, Braccadail in Isle of Skye; this School was formerly at Snizort; Hirta, alias St. Kilda, a far remote Island, where the Society maintains a Minister, who is also Schoolmaster, Glenmutsk in Braemar, Mortaltry there, Harray in Orkney, Abertarph in the Shire of Inverness, Tomnavillan in Banff Shire, Shappinsbay in Orkney an Island, Westray there, Kildonan in the Shire of Sutherland, Mull an Island, Laggan in Badenoch, Strowan in Athol, Killmorack in Ross, Lochearn in Perth Shire, Glenladnoch there, Glenarchna there, Tillichon in the Shire of Murray, Culphern there, Drummoyn there, Tillidivie there, Brae of Balgubidder in Perth Shire, Strathyre there, Lochearn there, South Ronaldshay in Orkney an Island, North Ronaldshay there, Bracklaim in Perth Shire, Collintogle there, Bridge of Turk there, Evie in Orkney, Orphire there, Rivin in Banff Shire, Hoy in Orkney, Gremsey an Island there, Tombowie in Dunbartoun Shire, Ardewig there, Coverlet there, Claskmore there, Port in Stirling Shire, Firth in Orkney, Aldern in Murray: From the greater Part of all which Places, the Society do from Time to Time receive most encouraging Accounts of a Multitude of Scholars, and almost surprising Advances in their Learning.

But there being Applications made in Favours of a great many other Places, beside these above-mentioned, that greatly want the Means of Christian Education, the Society are earnestly solicitous to have them as speedily supplied as may be; but their present Stock being capable to sustain no more Schools than they have already established, and the Committee being informed that there will be a Ballance remaining in the Hands of the General Assembly, of the Money that was due to the Church, upon the Fund of the Equivalent, after Payment of all the Church's Debts stated upon that Fund, which was set apart by the last Assembly for advancing the Knowledge of GOD in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, they do with the greatest Submission propose to this Venerable Assembly, that the foresaid Ballance may be employed toward the

C

erecting

erecting and maintaining Charity Schools in those Places where Popery does most abound.

The Committee does own, That they were likewise informed, That the late Assembly had in View to maintain Probationers as Catechists with the said Money in such Places; but their main Design being the promoting of the Knowledge of Christ, this present Assembly will still find themselves at Liberty to follow these Means that are most likely to reach that End, and the Committee are very hopeful, That the Venerable Assembly will soon be of the Mind, That the erecting of Charity Schools, where not only the first Foundations of the Knowledge of the Principles of the reformed Protestant Religion, will be firmly and solidly laid, and at Leisure inculcated in the Minds of the rude and ignorant, especially the younger Sort; but the Seeds of Knowledge thus sown will be preserved, by the Scholars their being taught to read the Holy Scriptures, the Fountain of all Truth; will be a much more probable Way to advance the Knowledge of Christ, and root out the Popish Errors, than the overly Instruction of an itinerant Catechist, who cannot be supposed to have Time enough to make his Scholars understand distinctly the full Meaning of the very Terms, in which the Mysteries of our holy Religion are express, without which his Teaching can be of little Use, especially if it be considered, That the Teachers of the Charity Schools do really perform all the Work that such Catechists can do, except it be to ease the Minister of some Diets of preaching; for the Charity Schools being commonly set up in Places remote from the Parish Church, these Schoolmasters do upon the Lord's Days, by the Minister's Direction, read the holy Scriptures, and other good and pious Books to the People, do sing Psalms, and pray with them, and catechize them; and in the Summer Time, when the Parents are obliged to remove their Children from the Schools to their Sheilings for herding their Cattel, the Schoolmaster may be enjoined to travel to and fro amongst those Sheilings, and instruct the People.

The Venerable Assembly will please further to consider what Difficulties occur in getting Preachers having the *Irish* Language, sufficiently qualified to be Catechists, according to the Scheme set forth in the Act of the late Assembly, when, notwithstanding all the Encouragements given by the Assemblies of this Church to Students having that Language, there cannot be as many found as to supply the Vacancies in *Highland* Congregations, when the same fall out.

And to perswade the Venerable Assembly to give all Encouragement to the Society's Undertaking, the Committee lays hold on this Occasion to inform them a little
of

of their Constitution and Method of Management; for besides five general Meetings of the whole Society yearly, their Committee of fifteen, which by their Parent is obliged to meet monthly, meets for the most Part every Week; and Matters are so ordered by the Society, That this Committee, upon any necessary Emetgent, is always convened upon half an Hour's Advertisement; so that the Society and their Committees have more frequent Occasions to enquire into the State of their Schools, and Diligence of their Schoolmasters, than any Church Judiciary can have to oversee their Catechists; and for the Society's better Direction, and more exact Management, they keep a close and constant Correspondence with the Ministers of the Parishes, and Presbyteries of the Bounds, within which their Schools are settled; and when they find their Schools do not prosper in one Place, they by the Presbyteries Advice do transport them to another: Many other Instances could be here given to show the Exactness of the Society's Administration; but the same is so well known to a great Number of the Reverend and Honourable Members of this Assembly, that the Committee forbears to give the Assembly the Trouble now to mention them.

May it therefore please this Venerable Assembly to renew the Recommendations of former Assemblies to Presbyteries, and particular Ministers, to deal seriously with well disposed Persons, who have not yet contributed, to extend their Charity for advancing the pious Ends of the Society's Erection, that they may be soon enabled to establish Schools in those Countries where Popery prevails, that do yet want the same; and if the Assembly shall find any Occasion for the Society's Assistance in the Way that they shall think fit to bestow the foresaid Ballance, the Committee does, in the Name of the said Society, freely offer their Service to the Assembly. This, in Name of the said Committee, and by their Appointment, is signed by Will. Hamilton Pr. Co.

The General Assembly having discoursed fully upon the Matter of the said Representation, they did and hereby do appoint the Exerescence of the Church's Money upon the Fund of the Equivalent, that shall remain, after Payment of the Church's Debts stated upon that Fund, to be lodged with the Society in Scotland for propagating Christian Knowledge, for erecting Schools in the Highlands and Islands; and they declare that the Receipt of the Treasurer of the said Society or the Procurator for the Church for the said Remains, shall be a sufficient Exoneration to him at his Compting for the said

Monies

Monies. And, Further, The General Assembly renews all Recommendations given by former General Assemblies, in Favours of the said Society, and do give the said Society and their Committee hearty Thanks for their great Care and faithful Management of the Trust reposed in them.

VI.

Act concerning the Qualification of Members of the Commission.

Edinburgh May 19th, 1719. Sess. 5th.

THE General Assembly do resolve and appoint, That all the Members of the Commissions of this and subsequent Assemblies, be qualified according to the Acts of Assembly, particularly the Ninth Act of the last General Assembly, before they vote or act as such.

VII.

Recommendation concerning Deacons.

Edinburgh May 19th, 1719. Sess. 5th.

THE General Assembly recommends to all the Ministers of this Church, to take Care, that Deacons as well as Elders, be ordained in such Congregations where Deacons are wanting, but declares that Deacons as such, shall have no decisive Voice in calling of Ministers, or in the Exercise of Church Discipline.

VIII.

Act for the right Management of the Church's publick Money.

Thursday May 21st 1719, Ante Meridiem, Sess. 7.

THE General Assembly considering how unsuitable it is for the Church to engage their Credit beyond what their Funds are able to answer, therefore to prevent this Inconveniency in Time coming, the General Assembly do hereby prohibit and discharge

charge the applying of any of the said Money toward the Payment of the Expences of Proceses for Stipends, except in Parishes where Popery abounds, or such as shall be recommended both by the Presbytery and Synod, to which the Parish belongs, and the Case laid before the Assembly, and their particular Order given for that Effect before the Commencement of the Process: And the General Assembly does resolve and declare, That for hereafter no new Warrants or Orders shall be granted for Payment of any Money to any Person whatsoever, except to Preachers sent to supply in the North for their Allowances; and they hereby strictly prohibit and discharge the Clerk of Assembly or Sub Clerk to write out, or the Moderator of this or subsequent Assemblies, to subscribe any Orders or Warrants for Payment of any new Grants out of the Church's yearly Allowance, until all former Debts already contracted by preceeding Assemblies or Commissions be first payed. And, Further, The General Assembly resolves and declares, That at no Time hereafter any Warrants for Money shall be granted, until it be known that there is as much in the Hands of the Receiver of the Church's Money, as will be sufficient to answer the same, and they appoint the seventh Act of the General Assembly Anno One Thousand seven Hundred and Twelve to be punctually observed, and do require the Procurator for the Church, when any Demands for Money comes before the General Assembly or Commissions thereof, to acquaint them with the State of their Funds, and to read the fore-said Act, Anno One Thousand seven Hundred and Twelve, and this present Act to them. And the Assembly discharges the Committee chosen by each Assembly for auditing and revising the Church's publick Accompts, to propose the giving either of Money or Precepts for Money exceeding that Part of the Years Allowance belonging to that Assembly, which is free and unappropriated, and appoints them to bring their Report first to the Committee for Overtures, before it be brought into the General Assembly. And the General Assembly also appoints the said Committee for the publick Accompts, to cause this present Act, and any new Regulations that shall be made about Money to be read to them yearly, and to reject all Petitions and Demands not in the Terms thereof, and to report an Account of any Breaches that shall be made therein, to the Assembly.

IX.

ACT Shewing the Sin and Evil of Running unentred Goods; and of the Perjuries at the Custom-Houses, in Matters of Trade.

Edinburgh, 22d May 1719. Sess. 3.

THE General Assembly taking into their serious Consideration, the many Sins and Scandals that are occasioned in this Nation; especially upon the Sea Coasts thereof, by the Running of uncustomed Goods, to the great Discouragement and Detriment of all fair Traders; the multiplied Perjuries that some Shipmasters, Merchants, and others, become guilty of in His Majesty's Custom-houses, through this unlawful and unwarrantable Practice, to the great Dishonour of GOD, the Reproach of the Christian Name and Character, and to the Wounding and Ruining of precious Souls; the dreadful Profanation of the LORD's Day that these impious Courses do lead Seamen, Farmers, Merchants, and others of their Assistants to, in transporting and hiding of their Goods on the Sabbath; And that all this is attended with horrid Lying and Dissimulation, with beastly Drunkenness and Stealing, the Persons who help to carry off these unentred Goods, and are disposed through Influence, Friendship and Money, to lodge and conceal them, reckoning it a small Offence and Sin, if any, to take a Share of them to themselves; and that such Practices are sometimes the Occasion of Fighting, Beating, Slaughter, and Blood, and do not a little lessen His Majesty's just Revenues, than by the Laws of GOD, and Laws of the Land, His Majesty's Trading Subjects (under His Protection) are obliged to render to Him for Conscience Sake, in Obedience to the Commands of GOD's holy Word, *That we should render to Cesar, the Things that are Cesar's; and to GOD the Things that are God's*, Matth. Chap. 22. Verse 21. *And to give Tribute to whom Tribute is due, and Custom to whom Custom*, &c. Rom. Chap. 13. Verse 7. Do judge themselves bound in Duty, and Conscience, to warn all Men of the Sin, Evil and Danger of such Courses; And they strictly enjoin all Ministers, especially those whom the Providence of GOD has fixed in Sea Trading Towns and Places, to represent to the People and Hearers, the great Impiety, and monstrous Wickedness of such Methods to gain this World, to the endangering of their Souls; and as they have Access, seriously to deal with the Consciences of such as they have

have Ground to suspect guilty in this Matter, and to show to them the Evil of their Ways, earnestly Beseeching and Obtesting them in the Fear of GOD; and from the Consideration of a future Judgment, to abstain from such crying Sins and deadly Courses, that cannot but justly provoke a Holy GOD to deny them Success in their Enterprises and Undertakings, to lessen their Means, and to send heavy Judgments upon them; that are so contrary to Divine Laws, and inconsistent with Christians, their Professions and Engagements to the most High GOD, that have so plain a Tendency to ruin their Souls, and to draw down the Wrath of GOD upon them and theirs; and that serve so palpably to debauch the Consciences and Morals of so many in the Country, and to involve others in Guilt with themselves, by Bribing and otherwise. And the General Assembly ordains this Act to be once read in all the Churches in Scotland, and as often in particular Parishes, as the Prudence of Ministers shall direct.

X.

Recommendation against Abuses at Penny Weddings.

Edinburgh 22d May, 1719. Sess. 8.

THE General Assembly did, and hereby do recommend to Synods, Presbyteries, and Kirk Sessions, to see to the Execution of the Acts of the General Assembly against Abuses at Penny Weddings, and to apply to the civil Magistrate for the Execution of the Laws against Persons guilty of Abuses and Disorders on these Occasions.

XI.

Commission to some Ministers and ruling Elders for discussing divers Affairs referred to them.

At Edinburgh 22d May 1719. Post merid. Sess. 9.

THE General Assembly having taken to their Consideration, That there are divers weighty Affairs which they cannot overtake, do nominate, commissionate and appoint their Reverend Brethren, Masters James Grierson one of the Ministers of *Edinburgh* their Moderator, *Patrick*
D. *Wagner*

Warner at Irving, William Vetch at Dumfries, William Innes at Thurso, Andrew Sutherland at Lathern, John Keith at Walls in Orkney, James Sands at Birsay there, William Blaw at Westray, George Duncan at Walls in Zetland, William Wisheart Principal of the College of Edinburgh, John M'Laran there, William Mitchel there, John Schaw at Leith, Samuel Semple at Liberton, James Smith at Cramond, William Hamilton Professor of Divinity at Edinburgh, John Brand at Borrowstounness, John Baillie at Ecclesmachan, John Lookup at Midcalder, James Nasmyth at Dalmenie, Robert Livingstone at Biggar, John Tait at Kilbocho, Alexander Walker at Kirkurd, Andrew Mitchell at Mannor, Daniel Gilchrist at Lintoun, Patrick Cuming at Ormiston, William M'George at Pennycook, Robert Mutter at Cranston, Matthew Reid at Northberwick, John Currie at Haddington, Robert Horseburgh at Salt-precston, Thomas Finlay at Prestoun Kirk, William Ogilvie at Innerwick, Lawrence Johnston at Dunse, Walter Heart at Bunkle, John Dysart at Coldinghame, Robert Park at Falden, George Home at Chirnside, James Ramsay at Kelso, George Logan at Sprouston, Alexander Coldan at Oxnam, Robert Bell at Cavers, Nicol Edgar at Hopkirk, James Douglas at Stow, David Brown at Gordon, Thomas Bostoun at Estrick, Robert Lithgow at Askirk, James Currie at Hoddam, Robert Malcom at Ews, Robert Jarden at Cummertrees, Gabriel Gullen at Wamphray, Thomas Tod at Derisdeer, John Lawson at Closburn, James Garthie at Irongray, Robert Paton at Drumfries, John Bowie at Troquire, Andrew Cameron at Kircudbright, James Monteith at Borgue, James Rowan at Partoun, Archibald Halden at Sorbie, William Campbell at Kirkcaldy, George Crawford at Stephenkirk, John Anderson at Kirkcaldy, Andrew Rodger at Galston, Henry Osburn at Torbolton, John Steel at Old-Cumnock, John M'Dermid at Air, James Robertson at Craigie, John Glasgow at Kilbirnie, Hugh Fawside at Newmilns, James Rowat at Dunlop, Robert Wodrow at Eastwood, John Miller at Neilson, Matthew Crawford at Inchinnan, Alexander Adamson at Dalziel, John Currie at Old-Munkland, Thomas Steel at Streven, Thomas Linnen at Lesmahago, James Garthshore at Carmichael, James Braidfoot at Dunsyre, John Scott at Glasgow, John Simson Professor of Divinity in the College of Glasgow, William Love at Cathcart, John Stirling Principal of the College of Glasgow, Robert Wallace at Baldernoch, David Fleckfield at Balfon, John Logan at East Kirkpatrick, Walter Campbell at Dunoon, Dougald Stewart at Rothsay, James Bowes at Campbelltown, John M'Vicar at Islay, Alexander Campbell at Inverary, James Gettie there, John M'Lean at Mull, Daniel Morison at Kilbrandon, Daniel M'Anlay at Bracadale, Kenneth Bethune at Skye, Alexander Glass at Kinlewin, George Frier at Lethendy, John Gow at Cargill, John Halkes

at Cuppeth, Samuel Nairn at Errol, William Wilton at Perth, Thomas Schaw at Scoon, Robert Lyon at Kilsauns, David Schaw at Auchterarder, William Hunter at Gask, David Guthrie at Muckart, John Watson at Dennie, John Logan at St. Ninians, Matthew Wallace at Kincardin, John Taylor at Tillicultry, Samuel Charters at Inverkeithin, Allan Logan at Culrofs, Robert M'Gill at Kinross, Andrew Eliot at Auchtertool, James Henry at Kinghorn, Robert Punton at Kennoway, William Dick at Coupar, Andrew Melvil at Monymail, William Brown at Kilmory, James Monro at Kettle, James Haddow Principal of the new College of St. Andrews, William Moncrief at Largo, Walter Wilson at Kilconquhar, William Cunningham at Kemback, Joseph Drew Principal of St. Leonard's College of St. Andrews, William Stewart at Blairgowry, Thomas Ogilvie at Coupar in Angus, John Thomson at Alith, William Dun at Glamis, Robert Young at Inverarity, Samuel Johnston at Dundee, John Bannatyne at Monyfeeth, James Adams at Kinnaird, Andrew Bruce at Innerkeelore, Robert Trail at Panbride, George Wemyss at Ferne, John Glasford at Strickathrow, John Gillies at Caraldston, David Burn at Fetteresso, James Mitchel at Dunnotter, William Trail at Benholm, William Mair at Kincardin-oneill, John Shepherd at Logie Colston, Alexander Toch at Tarland, Thomas Blackwell Principal of the College of New Aberdeen, David Anderson Professor of Divinity in the King's College there, Alexander Mitchel at Old Machir, Colin Campbell at Aberdeen, George Chalmers Principal of the King's College at Aberdeen, James Gordon at Alfoord, Patrick Coupland at Touch, Daniel M'Swaine at Stradon, Alexander Shand at Inch, William Johnston at Premna, William Forbes at Tarves, Henry Likely at Meldrum, William Lestly at St. Fergus, Alexander Auchinleck at Frazersburgh, James Lestly at Crimond, John Turrine at Drumblair, Alexander Forbes at Fergie, Peter Darlin at Boyndie, James Toures at Ordiquhill, Hugh Innes at Mortlich, John Gilchrist at Keith, James Chapman at Crombail, Lauchlan Schaw at Kingussie, Joseph Sanderson at Alves, Charles Primrose at Elgin, John Squire at Forres, John Crockett at Dallas, Robert Baillie at Inverness, William Stewart there, George Gordon at Cromerty, John Monro at Suddie, Alexander Frazer at Urquhart, Daniel M'Gilligan at Alnes, Hector Frazer at Eddertie, George Monro at Nig, John Mackay at Larg, and Robert Kirk at Dornock Ministers. John Duke of Athol, John Earl of Rothes, David Earl of Buchan, Charles Earl of Lauderdale, Thomas Earl of Haddington, Patrick Earl of Marchmont, James Earl of Hyndford, David Earl of Glasgow, Archibald Earl of Islay, William Lord Strathnaver, Alexander Lord Polwarth, Lord Charles Ker Director of His Majesty's Chancellery, William Lord Ross, James Lord Torphichen, George Lord

Reay, Sir Hew Dalrymple of Northberwick Lord President of the Session, Adam Cokeburn of Ormiston Lord Justice Clerk, Sir George Maxwell of Pollock, Sir Alexander Ogilvie of Forglen, Mr. James Erskine of Grange, Mr. James Hamilton of Pancaitland, Sir Andrew Home of Kimmerghame, Sir Walter Pringle of Newhall, eight of the Senators of the College of Justice, John Clark one of the Barons of Exchequer, Sir David Dalrymple of Halls His Majesty's Advocate, Mr. Robert Dundas of Arncliffe younger His Majesty's Solicitor, Mr. John Campbell of Mamore, Mr. Francis Montgomery of Giffan, Colonel William Dalrymple of Glenmore, Mr. Arthur Forbes of Breda, Colonel John Erskine of Carnock, Mr. Charles Erskine Advocate, Son to the late Lord Cardross, George Sinclair of Ulbster Sheriff Principal of Caithness, Robert Craig Baillie in Edinburgh, Doctor Alexander Dundas Physician there, Mr. Robert Stewart Regent in the College there, William Neilson Lord Provost of Edinburgh, William Livingston late Deacon Conveener there, George Dundas of that Ilk, Mr. John Dundas of Philipstoun, Dr. David Mitchel of Herdmanstoun, William Baillie of Lamington, Sir James Stewart of Goodtrees Baronet, Sir John Clark of Pennycuik Baronet, Mr. John Hamilton of Pancaitland younger, Sir Robert Dalrymple of Castletoun, Sir William Baird of Newbyth Baronet, Patrick Hepburn of Smeitoun, Sir Robert Sinclair of Longformacus Baronet, Sir John Stewart of Allanbank Baronet, Sir John Swinton of that Ilk, George Baillie of Ferviswood, Sir John Pringle of Stitchel Baronet, Sir Gilbert Eliot of Stobs Baronet, Archibald Douglas of Cavers, Sir Walter Riddel of that Ilk Baronet, Major James Aikman, Mr. Thomas Halyburton of Newmains, George Pringle of Greenknows, Sir William Johnston of Westram Baronet, Mr. James Baillie Writer to the Signet, John Corsbie and Robert Corbet late Provosts of Drumfries, Sir Thomas Kilpatrick of Closburn Baronet, Colonel William Maxwell of Cardross, Captain Samuel McClellan of Barclay, John Martin of Aries, George Martin of Cortclay, Sir James Agnew of Lochmaw Sheriff Principal of Galloway Baronet, Sir Charles Hay of Park Baronet, Mr. James Boswell of Auchinleck Advocate, Captain John Campbell of Wallwood, Francis Dunlop of that Ilk, Hugh Montgomery of Hartfield, Sir Robert Pollock of that Ilk Baronet, Mr. William Muir of Dungarnock Advocate, Sir David Stewart of Cultnesh Baronet, John Hay late Baillie in Edinburgh, Mr. Archibald Stewart Advocate, James Hamilton of Aikinhead, John Aird Provost of Glasgow, James Hamilton of Barns, Sir James Smollet of Bombill, Sir James Campbell of Ardkinglass Baronet, Dr. William Stewart of Ambriemore, John Campbell late Lord Provost of Edinburgh, George Drummond Treasurer of Edinburgh, Mr. Alexander Campbell Advocate, Mr. George Livingston, one of

of the Clerks of Session, *John Osburn Merchant late Baillie in Edinburgh, William Austin Provost of Perth, Sir James Campbell of Aberuchil Baronet, Mr. Alexander Bruce of Kennet, Colonel John Blackadder, Alexander Forrester of Arngibbon, James Denar of Lassadie, George Balfour of Balbirnie, Mr. Robert Hay of Naughtoun, John Knox Chirurgion, Sir Robert Anstruther of Balcaskie, Mr. Patrick Halden Advocate Provost of St. Andrews, Patrick Drummond of Gairdram, John Scrimseor of Telin late Provost of Dundee, Robert White Baillie in Brechin, John Orim Merchant in Stonehaven, Arthur Forbes of Eight, John Gordon and Robert Stewart late Provosts of Aberdeen, George Fordice of Braidford present Provost there, Captain John Forbes of Boinalie, Mr. Alexander Garden of Troup Advocate, Mr. Patrick Grant of Easter Elchies Advocate, James Nimmo Merchant in Edinburgh, Sir Henry Innes of that Ilk Baronet, Mr. Alexander Abercrombie of Tillibody Advocate, James Brodie of that Ilk, Mr. William Brody Advocate, Mr. Duncan Forbes Advocate, James Spence of Alveskirton, Mr. Alexander Gordon of Ardoch Provost of Fortrose, Colonel Robert Monro of Foulis, George Monro of Culcairn Provost of Dingwall, Sir George Warrander of Lochend, Thomas Dundas Merchant Baillie in Edinburgh, Archibald M'Aulay Merchant late Baillie there, Dr. John Riddel Physician, Dr. Francis Pringle Physician, Dr. James Forrest Physician there, Mr. Alexander Nisbet Chirurgion there, Mr. John Henderson Merchant, Hugh Hathorn Merchant, John Fergusson Merchant, John Russel of Braidshaw, Mr. Joseph Cave his Majesty's Engraver in the Mint, Mr. Colin Drummond Professor of Philosophy in the College of Edinburgh, Mr. Robert Hepburn Writer to the Signet, Mr. Walter Stewart Advocate, James Young of Killicantie, Sir William Menzies of Gladstains, Mr. Alexander Menzies of Culterallas, Major James Leblanc, James Balfour of Pilrig, Captain Matthew Campbell, and Mr. John Dickson Writer to the Signet, Ruling Elders, to be Commissioners of this General Assembly, to the Effect after-mentioned, with Power to the said Commission or their Quorum, which is hereby declared to be any 31 of the said Commissioners, whereof 21 are always to be Ministers, to meet and convene within the Assembly House at Edinburgh, the first free Day after the Dissolution of this Assembly, at ten of the Clock Forenoon, and afterwards the second Wednesdays of August, November and March next to come, and oftner, when or where they shall think fit and convenient, with Power to the said Commission to choose their own Moderator. And likewise, the General Assembly fully impowers and authorizes their said Commissioners or their Quorum above-mentioned, to cognosce, and finally determine, as they shall see Cause, in every Matter*

referred, or that shall be referred to them, by any Act or Order of this Assembly : And to do every thing contained in, and conform to the Instructions given, or to be given by this Assembly : And to advert unto the Interests of the Church on every Occasion, that the Church and present Establishment thereof do not suffer or sustain any Prejudice, which they can prevent, as they will be answerable; providing this general Clause be not extended to particular Affairs or Processes before Synods or Presbyteries, that are not of universal Concern to, or Influence upon the whole Church. And it is hereby appointed, That what shall be determined at one Diet of the said Commission, with Relation to private Causes, shall be unalterable by any other Diet thereof, and shall stand and continue in Force, till disproven by the General Assembly. And the General Assembly renews the Instructions given by the General Assembly *Anno 1717*, to their Commission, and appoints the same to stand in full Force, as Instructions to the Commissioners above-named, and to be observed by them in all Points, as if the same were specially therein insert : And that they enquire how the Prohibition has been observ'd in the Bounds of the Presbytery of *Auchterarder*, or elsewhere, whereby the using of the Proposition emitted by that Presbytery, and condemned by the General Assembly *Anno 1717*, was discharged ; and that they enquire into the publishing and spreading of Books and Pamphlets, tending to the Diffusing of that condemned Proposition, and promoting a Scheme of Opinions relative thereto, which are inconsistent with our Confession of Faith; and that the Recommenders of such Books or Pamphlets, or the Errors therein contained, whether by Word or Print, be called before them to answer for their Conduct in such Recommendations. And the Commission are impowered to judge in Cases of Doctrine that shall be brought before them by Appeals or References from Synods or Presbyteries; and they are likewise appointed to take Care that Impressions of the holy Scriptures, of the Confession of Faith, and Catechisms, and of all other Books relating to the Doctrine, Worship, Discipline and Government of this Church, be correct. And the said Commissioners are hereby strictly prohibited and discharged to meddle in any other Matters, than what are committed and referred to them as above-mentioned ; and in all their Actings, they are to proceed according to the Acts and Constitutions of this National Church, and to do nothing contrary thereto, or to the Prejudice of the same: Declaring, that in and for all their Actings, they shall be accountable to, and censurable by the next General Assembly, as they shall see Cause : And this Commission is to continue and endure until another Commission be appointed; and Members are required to attend the Diets of the said Commission, and Absents therefrom, ordered to be noticed according

ding to the 17th Act of the General Assembly 1706. And for the better securing of a *Quorum* and Attendance of Members on the Commission, the General Assembly prohibits the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, and other Presbyteries within twelve Miles thereof, to meet any of the Days or Weeks appointed for the Meeting of this Commission; and such of the Members of these Presbyteries as are on the Commission, are required all of them to give punctual Attendance on the Diets thereof, and Presbyteries at a greater Distance, who have four or more Members on the Commission, are to take Care that at least two of them attend each Diet of the same.

XII.

Act for promoting Religion and Learning in Universities and Colleges.

Edinburgh 23d May 1719. Session 9th.

THE General Assembly considering how much it is their Duty to do all that's in their Power for promoting Religion and Learning in this Church, do hereby instruct their Commission carefully to advert to every Thing whereby they may contribute to the Flourishing of the Sciences and good Literature, and to the propagating of Religion and Loyalty in Universities; and particularly, That they diligently enquire what Privileges and Interest the Judicatures of this Church, or the Ministers thereof, have by the Constitutions of the several Universities and Colleges, and by the Laws of the Land, with Respect to the Settlement of the Ministers and Professors in them, which the General Assembly hereby appoints their Commission by all Just Methods to maintain inviolably, and improve towards the promoting the foresaid Interests of true Piety and Learning; and that for this End, they receive and give all due Encouragement to whatever Applications may be made to them for this Effect.

XIII

Act appointing the Diet of the next General Assembly.

Edinburgh 23d May 1719. Session ult.

THE next General Assembly of this National Church of Scotland, is appointed to be held at *Edinburgh*, the second *Thursday* of *May* next to come, in the Year of our LORD, One Thousand seven Hundred and Twenty.

This General Assembly was concluded with Prayer, singing the 133 Psalm throughout, and pronouncing of the Blessing.

Collected and Extracted from the Records of the General Assembly, by

JO. DUNDAS, Cls. Eccl. Scot.

A T A B L E

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the Year 1719.*

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Of the Acts of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, held in the Year 1719, which are not here printed.

- A**fter Sermon, by Mr. *William Wisbeart* Moderator of the preceeding Assembly, the Ministers and Ruling Elders, Members of this Assembly, did convene, and Mr. *James Grierson* one of the Ministers of *Edinburgh*, was chosen Moderator, *May 14th, 1719, Sess. 1.*
- The King's Commission to *John Earl of Rothes* recorded. *Ibid.*
- His Grace His Majesty's Commissioner's Speech to the General Assembly at opening thereof. *Ibid.*
- The Moderator's Return to His Majesty's Commissioner's Speech. *Ibid.*
- Committee for drawing an Answer to His Majesty's Gracious Letter. *Ibid.*
- Committee for Overtures appointed. *Ibid.*
- Committee for Bills, References and Appeals. *Ibid.*
- Protestation by the Lord Provost of *Edinburgh*, against admitting a Member from the College of that City, without the Town Council's Choice. *Ibid.*
- Committee appointed to examine the Form of the Commissions given to the Members of this Assembly by their Constituents, censure Absents, name Ministers to preach before the Commissioner's Grace, to supply the Moderator's Diet of preaching, and to receive in Lists of Probationers and Students of Divinity, in Order to be recorded, and to consider the Lord Provost of *Edinburgh's* Protestation against sustaining Mr. *William Hamilton's* Commission. *Ibid.*
- A Diet appointed for solemn Prayer. *Ibid.*
- A Diet spent in Prayer, *May 15th, Sess. 2d.*
- Ministers named to preach before the Lord Commissioner, and for the Moderator. *Ibid.*
- Some more Commissions produced. *Ibid.*
- The Commission and Synod Books ordered to be brought in at the next Diet to be revised. *Ibid.*
- Some more Commissions produced, and Additions to Committees, *May 16th, Sess. 3d.*
- The Excuses of some Absents admitted. *Ibid.*
- An Answer to His Majesty's most gracious Letter unanimously approven, and the same being signed by the Moderator, the Lord Commissioner undertook to transmit it to His Majesty, and a Copy thereof was ordered

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to be sent to his Grace the Duke of Roxburgh Secretary of State. *Ibid.*

Mr. *William Wisbeare* desired to print and publish his Sermon preached at the opening of this Assembly. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to revise the Register of the Commission of the last Assembly to audit the Procurator and Agent their Accompts, to consider the State of the Church's publick Money; and prepare Overtures thereanent, and to bring in such Overtures and References as were made by the late Commission to this Assembly. *Ibid.*

Committees appointed to revise and examine the Actings of the Synods of Orkney, Lothian and Tweeddale, Merse and Tiviotdale, Drumfries, Glasgow and Air, Fife, Angus and Mernes and Murray, but the Synod Books of Galloway, Argyll, Perth and Stirling; Aberdeen, and Ross, and Sutherland, and the Presbytery Book of Zeiland not being produced, the said Synods and Presbytery were ordered to lay their said Books before the next Assembly. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to receive in from the Commissioners from the several Presbyteries their Synods and Presbyteries, Instructions to them, and any new Overtures they have to offer, and to class the Matters therein-contained, and prepare Overtures therefrom, to be laid before the Assembly; and also to receive in any Accounts that shall be offered to them of the State of the Church in the North, the Highlands and Islands, particularly concerning the Growth of Popery and Superstition, and to consider the same, and prepare Overtures for suppressing and preventing thereof, and to bring in their Report first to the Committee for Overtures, that they may prepare the same for the Assembly. *Ibid.*

A Representation from the Society in Scotland for propagating Christian Knowledge to the Assembly, read, and remitted back to the Committee for Bills, to be reconsidered by them, and all Members to attend the said Committee of Assembly, who had any Thing to offer upon that Subject, and in Case of any new Difficulty, the Committee for Bills were appointed to take Advice of the Committee for Overtures, and Report again to the Assembly. *Ibid.*

All the Masters in the several Universities, Members of Assembly appointed to meet and deliberate upon what may be thought proper to be done for the Encouragement and Advancement of Learning and Virtue, as is ordered by the 16th Act of the General Assembly held in the Year 1707. *Ibid.*

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- The Commission impowered to grant all the Assistance they can for removing the deposed Episcopal Ministers from the Kirks of *Kendmoir*, *Fortingall* and *Kirkmichael*, in the Presbytery of *Dunkeld*, and also to cognosce and determine in any Processes that may be brought before them for planting these Parishes, and an Answer to the said Presbytery's Demand of Money delayed. *Ibid.*
- A Letter from the Synod of *Angus* and *Mernes*, giving an Account of the Disorders and Intrusions of several of the Prelatical Clergy in their Bounds, remitted to the Consideration of the Committee for Instructions. *Ibid.*
- The References and Overtures of the late Commission about the Church's publick Money, for suppressing Popery, preventing Perjuries at the Custom-houses, and anent the larger Overtures for Discipline, remitted to the Committee for Overtures. *Ibid.*
- The extraordinary Correspondence of neighbouring Synods, with the Synod of *Angus* and *Mernes* appointed by the 7th Act of the General Assembly, Anno 1701, and continued by the 6th Act of Assembly 1718, for one Year, is continued yet another Year longer. *Ibid.*
- More Commissions produced, and Additions to Committees, May 18th, Sess. 4th.
- The Matters set forth in the Petition of Mr. *John Keith* Minister of *Walls* in *Orkney*, with Relation to the Opposition made to him by Captain *James Moodie*, referred to the Consideration of the Committee for Overtures for his Relief and Support under the grievous Circumstances in which he is stated. *Ibid.*
- A Letter ordered to be written to the Ministers of *Drumfries*, recommending to them to shew all due Regard to the Reverend Mr. *William Vetch*, and to treat him with all Tenderness. *Ibid.*
- An Intimation made to all such as had Claims upon the Church's publick Money, or Petitions thereanent, to give in the same to the Committee for Bills the next Day, without Delay. *Ibid.*
- 'Tis remitted to the Commission to give their Advice to the Synod of *Angus* and *Mernes* in that Case of the Schoolmaster of *Kinheff*, who has 200 Merks of yearly Salary settled upon him by a Decree of the Lords of Session, and yet is threatned by some of the Heretors to be removed, unless he'll accept of 100 Merks, in stead of the two. *Ibid.*
- 'Tis recommended to the Commission to prosecute what was under the Consideration of the former Commission, and was not finished by them, with Respect to the Remedies against Popery, that are proper to be applied by the civil Government; and particularly, they are instructed to use all Endeavours suitable for them to get a Bill

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Bill brought in to the Parliament, containing proper Laws for suppressing and preventing the Growth of Popery in *Scotland*. *Ibid.*

Several ruling Elders Members of the Assembly subscribed the *Formula*, prescribed by the General Assembly 1694, in Obedience to the Ninth Act of the last General Assembly. *Ibid.*

The Consideration of Mr. *John Monro* Minister at *Suddie* his Petition, craving a Part of the publick Money for defraying the Charges of his Process for Augmentation of his Stipend, remitted to the Consideration of the Committee for the publick Accompts. *Ibid.*

The Appeal of that Parish of *Monksoun* and *Prestick*, from the Proceedings of the Presbytery of *Air*, with Relation to the Settlement of that Parish tabled and delayed. *Ibid.*

Intimation was made to all Persons having Business to be done in the Assembly to give in their Bills, References or Appeals to the Committee for Bills that Night with Certification, as in the 7th Act of the General Assembly *Anno 1718*. *Ibid.*

Another Commission produced, and Addition to Committees, *May 19. Sess. 5th.* *Ibid.*

Ministers named to preach before the Lord Commissioner, and for the Moderator. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to draw a Commission and Instructions, and to name a select Committee who are to judge in the Case of Mr. *William Inglis* at *Kilspindie*, deposed by a Sentence of the Synod of *Perth* and *Stirling*, which was brought by an Appeal to the former Assembly, was remitted by them to their Commission, and referred by the said Commission to this Assembly, committed. *Ibid.*

More Elders subscribe the *Formula*. *Ibid.*

The Commission is enjoined and instructed to take all fit Opportunities to seek Redress of the publick Grievances of this Church, and to do every Thing proper for obtaining thereof, and to pursue the Ends of the Memorials drawn up by former Assemblies and Commissions, with Respect thereto; particularly, to endeavour that such of our Communion as are Officers or Chaplains in Regiments in *England* or *Ireland*, may suffer no Inconveniency for their not taking the sacramental Test. And an Appointment is laid on Presbyteries to give in to the Commission well documented Accounts of the Irregularities of the Episcopal Clergy, and thereon the Commission to make all proper Applications for getting the same restrained. *Ibid.*

Some Overtures for planting of vacant Churches; especially *tanquam Jure devoluto*, read, and ordered to ly

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on the Table, to be perused by the Members, until another *Sederunt*. *Ibid.*

The Register of the Actings and Proceedings of the Commission of the late General Assembly examined and attested, according to the eighth Act of the General Assembly 1706. And the Members of the Commission commended for their Faithfulness and Diligence. *Ibid.*

A Declaration that the Attesting of the Commission Book should be without Prejudice to the Assembly to take in, hear and determine as they should find just, in the Complaint brought to them by Mr. *Henry Robine* late Minister at *Bruntisland*, against the said Commission for their deposing him from the Ministry. *Ibid.*

Thanks given to Mr. *William Mitchel*, one of the Ministers of *Edinburgh*, for his Liberality in dedicating the 100 *lb. Sterling* allowed him by the Church, as the Expenses of his Journey to *London* about their Affairs, to the Promoting the Knowledge of CHRIST in the Highlands and Islands of *Scotland*. *Ibid.*

Act finding the most Part of Overtures and References standing in the Commission Register about Matters, which the Commission did lay before this Assembly, had been already, or then were under the Consideration of the Assembly or their Committees, and resolving to consider the Whole. *Ibid.*

'Tis recommended to Presbyteries and particular Ministers, and other Persons deficient in Contributing to the Relief of the Protestant Churches in *Lithuania*, yet to do the same; And that Money is appointed to be sent to *James Young* Merchant, Collector nominated by the late Commission, as soon as possible; and the Commission is instructed to prosecute that Matter fully, and to make the said Collections effectual, as far as they can, and to see the Money rightly applied. *Ibid.*

Sundry Petitions craving Part of the Church's publick Money, referred to the Committee for the publick Accompts, and they appointed to report to the Committee for Overtures the State of the Accompts of the Church's publick Money, and how far there is Money to spare to the several Petitioners. *Ibid.*

Advertisement given to the Visitors of the Synod Books, to have their Report ready against the next Day before Noon. *Ibid.*

Another Commission produced; a Member added to the Committee for Overtures, *May 20th, Sess. 6.*

A special Committee is named with Power to consider the Libel exhibited already against Mr. *William Inglis*, or any additional Libel, or Articles of Libel that might be exhibited against him, and finally to determine in that Affair; and all former Depositions of the Witnesses examined,

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- amined in that Cause, ordered to be destroyed in Presence of the said Witnesses, before they depone of new, and all Copies thereof are recalled, but Liberty is given to either Party to appeal from the Committee to the Commission of this Assembly, who are impowered finally to determine therein, without any further Appeal. *Ibid.*
- The several Presbyteries to which the Members of the Committee for Mr. Inglis's Affair do belong, are appointed to cause supply their Charges during their Absence. *Ibid.*
- The Members of the Assembly ordered to meet by their Synods severally, to name Persons of their respective Synods, to be of a Committee for nominating the Members of a Commission to be appointed by this Assembly, and preparing the Draught of their Commission and Instructions. *Ibid.*
- The Books of the Synods of Caithness and Orkney, Lothian and Tweeddale, Merse and Tiviotdale, Glasgow and Air, Fife, Angus and Mernes, all examined and attested; but with a Recommendation to the Synod of Orkney and Caithness, yet to contribute themselves, and promote Contributions amongst their People for encouraging the Design of propagating Christian Knowledge, and with a Disapprobation of that Synod's Practice, in sending Brethren in a clandestine Way to travel through a Minister's Parish, to enquire at his People about his Life and Doctrine, with an Advice to the Synod of Merse and Tiviotdale, that at their stated synodical Meetings, they always chuse Committees for Overtures, Bills and Censures. *Ibid.*
- The Synod Book of Murray examined and attested, with an Injunction to them to see the Moderators of the several Meetings sign their Book at their next Meeting, and a Disapprobation of their dissolving the Presbytery of Aberlour, without the Authority of Assembly, and of their annexing the Parish of Bellie to the Presbytery of Strathbogie, without that Presbytery's Consent, and the Assembly's Authority, and both of them are restored to the State they were in before the fore-said Dissolution and Annexation; but it is remitted to the Commission, upon the Application of the fore-said Synod, to do in the Matter as they shall see Cause, until the next Assembly. *Ibid.*
- The Synod Books of Dumfries and Argyll ordered to be brought to the next Assembly to be examined. *Ibid.*
- Protestation admitted at the Instance of the Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale, against the Parishoners of Bathgate, for not insisting in their Appeal from that Synod. *Ibid.*
- Protestation admitted at the Instance of the Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale, against Mr. William Russel Minister at Scooby, for not insisting in his Appeal from that Synod. *Ibid.*

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The Committee appointed by the preceeding General Assembly, to revise the Presbytery Book of *Zetland*, and to lay their Remarks before this Assembly, not having done the same; 'tis remitted to the Commission to receive the said Remarks, and they are impowered to attest the Book. *Ibid.*

Another new Commission produced a Member added to the Committee for Overtures, *May 21st, Sess. 7th.*

Act approving the Advice and Direction given by the Committee of the General Assembly 26 *May* last, to the Procurator for selling the Church's Debentures on the Fund of the Equivalent, and approving the Sale thereof accordingly; also approving of allowing 3 per Cent. of Interest upon the Sums due, upon Account of Missions to the North, and other advanced Money preceeding *Candlemas* last, and refusing Interest to others mentioned in that Report, and the Direction for giving out Precepts to such of the Church's Creditors as had lost their former Precepts, or neglected to take out Precepts, and to pay the Sums therein contained, upon Discharges with absolute Warrandice. *Ibid.*

Act finding, That besides the Church's Debts stated on the Equivalent, there is 4894 *lb. Scots* already fixed upon the King's yearly Allowance, besides the constant annual Charges of the Church, and divers Accompts and Claims not yet stated; so that there are already more Debts contracted on the said Allowance than can be paid by it for three Years to come, and thereupon the eighth Act of this Assembly was made. *Ibid.*

Act allowing Mr. *John Keith* Minister at *Walls* in *Orkney*, Thirty Pound *Sterling* by Way of *Viaticum*, to enable him to go to some other Place, in Order to his Settlement elsewhere; and this also in Consideration of his Journey from *Orkney* to attend this Assembly, and of his other Circumstances, and allowing Mr. *Walter Ross* at *Killmoor* easter, 100 *lb. Scots*, as his *Viaticum*, for going to *Ross* by Order of the Commission; but refusing the Claim of *Viaticums* for Mr. *John McGilligin*, and Mr. *Daniel Beshune* Ministers; and also the Demand of Money for helping to maintain an Assistant to the Minister at *Diarniss* in *Strathnaver*, but referring to the Commission to prosecute the Design of a new Erection there, and of procuring from the Government a Stipend to another Minister for that Place, and delaying the Consideration of all other Demands for Money, until all the Debts already contracted by the Church are paid, but the said Claims then to be considered before any posterior Claims of that Nature. *Ibid.*

Act approving the Accompts of Mr. *John Dundas* Advocate, Procurator for the Church, for a whole Year of His Majesty's

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Majesty's Allowance till Mid-summer Term 1718, at the Disposal of the last General Assembly for defraying the Charges of the Year 1718, and discharging him and his Cautioner of his Intromissions, and appointing the Ballance of 86 lb. 18 sh. 1 d. and $\frac{1}{2}$ of a Penny *Sterling*, to be stated as an Article of Discharge in his next Accompt. *Ibid.*

Act approving the Procurator's Accompts of his Intromission with the Annualrents of the Church's Money due upon the Fund of the Equivalent, and discharging him and his Cautioner thereof, and appointing the Ballance of 23 lb. 11 sh. 1 d. and $\frac{1}{2}$ of a Penny *Sterling*, to be stated as an Article of Discharge in his next Accompt. *Ibid.*

Act approving the Accompts of *Nicol Spence* one of the Agents for the Church, his Intromissions with the Church's Money, and sustaining his Debursements on the Church's Affairs from the first of *May* 1718, to the first of *May* 1719, and appointing the Ballance of 72 lb. 2 d. $\frac{1}{2}$ of a Penny *Sterling* due to him, besides his Ballance at his former Comptings to be paid to him. *Ibid.*

Remit to the Commission to do what they can for the Relief and Assistance of the Presbytery of *Aberneithie*. *Ibid.*

List of Persons in the several Synods brought in, and appointed as a Committee for drawing the Commission to be given by this Assembly, naming the Persons to be thereon, and preparing their Instructions. *Ibid.*

Act appointing the Presbytery of *Air*, upon the Application either of the Heretors or Elders of the Parish of *Monkton* and *Prestick*, to allow the said Parish a Hearing of other young Men, besides *Mr. John Fulson* Probationer, and enjoining the Presbytery not to be hasty in the Settlement of that Parish, nor to proceed thereto, until all Means be first essayed to allay the Differences that have arisen in that Parish about the said Settlement; and in Case of an Appeal by either Party, discharging the said Presbytery to proceed to the said Settlement, until the said Appeal be first discusst; and appointing Letters to be written to *Sir Thomas Wallate* and the Laird of *Adamton*, intreating them to use their Endeavours to get the foresaid Parish comfortably settled to the Satisfaction of all concerned. *Ibid.*

Overtures for Planting of vacant Churches, especially *tantum Jure devoluto*, transmitted to the several Presbyteries for their Remarks thereupon, to be sent in to the next Assembly, in Order to be turned in to a standing Act, if generally agreed to; and appointing the Rules and Directions proposed in the said Overtures, to be strictly observed until the next Assembly. *Ibid.*

More Elders subscribe the Formula. *Ibid.*

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Mr. *William McKay*, a Student, having the *Irish* Language, recommended to the Synod of *Fife* for one of their Burses that fall vacant at *Martinmas* next, in Case after Trial they find the said Mr. *McKay* does deserve the same, May 22d 1719, Sess. 8th.

Reference to the Commission to consider what may be proper to be done as to these who have their Children baptized by such as are deposed or excommunicated, or were never Ministers, and for discouraging Persons disaffected, their Teaching private Schools of Humanity or Philosophy. *Ibid.*

'Tis referred to the Commission to call, cognosce, and finally to determine in a Process for Scandal against *William Agnew* of *Castlewig*, that was referred by the General Assembly Anno 1715, to their Commission and was not discussed by them; and the Presbytery of *Wigton* is appointed to cause cite the said *William Agnew* before the Commission for that End against *August* next. *Ibid.*

The Case of Mrs. *Leslie* Relict of the deceased Mr. *George Leslie* late Minister at *Naver*, with Respect to the Charges debursed by her Husband, in obtaining a Gift out of the Bishops Rents for augmenting his Stipend, is referred to the Commission, that they may do all they can for her. *Ibid.*

Instructions to the Commission to do what they can to obtain a new Erection out of the two Parishes of *Creeth* and *Kincardin*, and a Stipend to the Parish to be erected. *Ibid.*

Mr. *James Frazer* Son to the deceased Mr. *John Frazer* late Minister at *Alnes*, having the *Irish* Language, recommended to the Synod of *Fife* for a Burse. *Ibid.*

Recommendation to the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, to continue their Endeavours to get the Mass Meetings that are held in some Places in and about the Town of *Edinburgh* suppress'd, and the Trafficking of Priests, who seduce People to the Popish Errors, restrained; and an Instruction to the Commission to give the said Presbytery their Advice and Assistance therein, and to apply to the civil Magistrate, in Order to obtain the Execution of the Laws against the Persons found guilty in this Matter. *Ibid.*

Recommendation by the Assembly to all their Members, who could conveniently sign for Copies of Mr. *Robert Wodrow* Minister at *Eastwood*, his History of this Church during the late Times of Persecution and Oppression, now ready for the Press, to subscribe for the same presently, and to all the Ministers of this Church, who have not signed already, to do it at their Presbyteries, and to deal with such in their Bounds, as are well disposed to encourage this Work, and to send up

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Accounts of what is done to the Clerk or Sub-clerk of the Assembly, against the Meeting of the Commission in *August* next, and an Instruction to the Commission to do all they can to encourage and forward this Work. *Ibid.*

James Young Merchant in *Edinburgh*, Collector of the Contributions for the suffering Protestants in *Lithuania*, having produced to the Assembly a List of Fourteen Presbyteries yet wholly deficient, and of a great many Parishes in other Seventeen Presbyteries who have not yet contributed, at least, have not sent in their Collections, it was earnestly recommended to such Deficients, yet to contribute and send in their Money to the said Collector. *Ibid.*

The Synod-book of *Dumfries*, examined and attested with an Injunction, that their Book be fully brought up against the next Assembly. *Ibid.*

Report of the Committee appointed for revising the Commissions given to Members of this Assembly, by their Constituents received and approven, and Letters appointed to be written to the Presbyteries concerned, intimating to them the Defects found in the said Commissions, and enjoining them to observe the Acts of Assembly better in Time coming, and requiring Synods to call Presbyteries to an Account, who do not send up their Representatives as appointed, by the Acts of Assembly, and such Ruling Elders as have not signed the Formula, required to do it. *Ibid.*

Act continuing Professor *Hamilton* a Member of this Assembly, the Lord Provost of *Edinburgh* not having insisted in his Protestation against it. *Ibid.*

Recommendation to all the Ministers of this Church to read His Majesty's Proclamation, and the Abbreviate of the Laws against Profaneness from their Pulpits. *Ibid.*

Mr. *Henry Robin*'s Complaint against the late Commission moved and delayed. *Ibid.*

A Commission by this Assembly to some Ministers and Elders, and their Instructions approven, *May 22. Sess. 9.*

Mr. *Henry Robin*'s Complaint again moved, and a Committee appointed to go through that whole Process, put the Papers thereof all in due Order, and make a distinct State of the Case, both as to Relevancy and Probation, and lay the same before the next Assembly, with some Overture that may render the Work of the Assembly short and easie in that Cause. *Ibid.*

Mr. *John Keith* declared transportable from *Walls*, and a Letter ordered to the Presbytery of *Kirkwall*, desiring them to use all suitable Means to get him settled elsewhere, and the Parish of *Walls* planted with another, and a Committee appointed to deal with the Right Honour-

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able the Earl of *Mortoun* to the said Effect, and the Commission instructed to do what they can for Mr. *Keith's* further Relief from his Grievances, and for Planting the Parish of *Walls* when it becomes vacant, and all Recommendations in Mr. *Keith's* Favours to former Commissions renewed, and the Presbytery of *Kirkwall* ordered to lay before the Commission their whole Procedure against Captain *Moodie* of *Melfetter*, with Respect to his Scandals; and the Commission empowered to cognosce and finally determine therein, *May 23. Sess. 10.* Reference to the Commission to call, cognosce, and finally determine in the Appeal of some of the Elders and Parishoners of *Aberlour*, against the Presbytery of *Strathbogie* their Conduct, with Respect to the Planting of that Parish. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission to call, cognosce, and finally determine in the Appeal of Mr. *John Skinner* late Incumbent at *Bothkennar*, from the Sentence of the Synod of *Perth* and *Stirling*, rejecting his Appeal from the Sentence of the Presbytery of *Stirling* deposing him from the Office of the Ministry.

Reference to the Commission to do in the Matters set forth by Mr. *George Dunsan* Minister at *Walls* in *Zetland*, in his Petition to the Assembly, in Behalf of his Presbytery as they shall see fit. *Ibid.*

Instruction to the Commission to give all proper Advice and Assistance to the Presbytery of *Meigle*, in seeking and obtaining Redress of the barbarous Insult against them, while they were going on to settle the vacant Parish of *Glenilla*. *Ibid.*

The Commission empowered to call, cognosce, and finally determine in the Appeal of the Heretors, Elders and Householdholders within the Parish of *Glenilla*, from the Synod of *Angus* and *Mernes*, their Procedure in Planting of the said Parish. *Ibid.*

The Commission appointed to give their Advice and Direction to the Consistory of the *Scots* Congregation at *Campvere* in *Zeland*, in the Case laid by them in their Petition before the Assembly. *Ibid.*

Referred to the Commission to go through these Chapters of the large Overtures for Discipline, that are particularly pointed at in the Act Thirteenth of the General Assembly 1709, excepting the Sections and Paragraphs that are already past into Acts, with the Remarks of Presbyteries thereupon, and prepare and amend the said Overtures, and reprint the same conform to the said Remarks, and transmit them again to Presbyteries for their Opinion upon them against the next Assembly. *Ibid.*

Referred to the Commission to give Advice and Assistance to the Synod of *Angus* and *Mernes* in a Process for dis-
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- joining the Parishes of *Letbnot* and *Lochlee*, and annexing of *Letbnot* to the Parish of *Naver*. *Ibid.*
- Remit to the Commission to give Advice and Assistance to the Presbytery of *Zetland* in a Process for disjoining the Towns of *Gubberwick*, *Sound* and *Grimmista*, from *Tingwall*, and annexing them to *Lerwick*. *Ibid.*
- The Commission impowered to send Mr. *Donald McLeod* a Student having *Irish*, and now under Trial in *Aberdeen*, to the Synod of *Ross* and *Sutherland*, so soon as he is licensed, and to give him their ordinary Allowance. *Ibid.*
- All former Recommendations about new Erections renewed, and the Commission instructed to do what they can to obtain new Erections in the Highlands and Islands, and to get Stipends out of the Bishops Rents to the Parishes to be erected. *Ibid.*
- Recommendation to the Commission to oversee the Management of the Collections for the suffering Protestants in *Lithuania*, and to give Advice and Assistance to the Collector, as to the right Disposal of the Money. *Ibid.*
- The Commission instructed to do what they can to obtain due Payment to the Ministers in *Orkney* and *Zetland* of their Stipends, out of the Bishops Rents, and to assist them in obtaining Redress of their other Grievances. *Ibid.*
- Instruction to the Commission to seek out three Probationers, and send them to *Zetland*, to supply Vacancies and to give them the ordinary Allowance. *Ibid.*
- John Hood* and his Family recommended to all the Parishes in the Synods of *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, and *Fife* for Charity. *Ibid.*
- The two Appeals entred by Mr. *Henry Robin*, late Minister at *Bruntsland*, the one against the Proceedings of the Synod of *Fife*, with Respect to him since his Deposition, and the other against the Presbytery of *Kirkaldie*, as to the Settlement of *Bruntsland*, remitted to the Committee appointed to consider the Grounds of his Complaint against the Commission, and they appointed to prepare a distinct State of these Processes, and lay the same before the next Assembly, with an Overture. *Ibid.*
- Protestation admitted at the Instance of the Synod of *Murray*, against the Presbytery of *Elgin*, for their not insisting in their Appeal against the Sentence of the fore-said Synod, refusing to transport Mr. *Thomas Fairbairn* from the Parish of *Rothies*, to that of *Borairie*, which Appeal was made to the preceeding Assembly, and by them referred to their Commission, and again referred by the said Commission to this Assembly. *Ibid.*
- The Sentence of the greater Excommunication pronounced by the Presbytery of *Drumfries*, against Mr. *James Gilchrist*, late Minister at *Dunscore*, in Pursuance of an Ad-

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- vice of the former Assembly, appointed to be intimated in all the Parish Churches in *Scotland*, according to the Acts of Assembly, and Copies of the foresaid Sentence and Grounds thereof, appointed to be sent to the several Presbyteries for that End. *Ibid.*
- All Affairs and Matters that were referred by the former General Assembly to their Commission, and were not got discussed by them, are referred to the Commission of this Assembly, with Power to them to proceed and determine therein, in the same Manner as the former Commission were impowered to do. *Ibid.*
- Lists of Probationers and Students of Divinity brought in, and ordered to be recorded. *Ibid.*
- Institution to the Commission to take under Consideration the State of all the Bursaries in *Scotland*, and prepare such Overtures thereanent, as they think most proper for the right Ordering and Disposal thereof. *Ibid.*
- Protestation admitted at the Instance of the Heretors of *Carnbee*, against Doctor *Hugh Arnot* of *Balcormock*, for not insisting in his Appeal from the Sentence of the Presbytery of *St. Andrews*, sustaining a Call in Favour of Mr. *William Dalgliesh* Probationer, to be Minister of that Parish.
- The Allowance usually given to those sent as Supplies to *Angus* and *Mernes*, ordered to be given to Mr. *John Row*, now Minister of *Naver*; and with his Consent the said Money is ordered to be paid to the Relict of Mr. *George Lefly*, late Minister there, in Full of all she can claim of the said Mr. *Row* for the Expences debursed by her deceast Husband, in procuring an Augmentation of the Stipend of *Naver* out of the Bishops Rents. *Ibid.*
- The Appointments for preaching in the New, the College and Trone Churches next Lord's Day continued, notwithstanding the Dissolution of the Assembly this Day.
- Intimation of the Meeting of the Commission upon *Monday* next. *Ibid.*
- A Committee appointed for revising the Minutes of this Assembly, and giving Orders for the printing of such of the Acts thereof as are to be standing Rules, or of publick Use. *Ibid.*
- The Minutes of this Day's Sederunt read, all the Minutes of preceeding Sederunts having been read at the respective Diets subsequent to each of them. *Ibid.*
- The Moderator's Speech to the Assembly, and to the King's Commissioner. *Ibid.*
- The Commissioner's Speech and Conclusion of this General Assembly. *Ibid.*

OVER-

OVERTURES

CONCERNING

Planting of vacant Churches, especially *tanquam Jure devoluto*.

Edinburgh May 21st, 1719. Session 7th.

THIS Day the Overtures for planting of vacant Churches, especially *tanquam Jure devoluto*, that were upon Tuesday last ordered to ly upon the Table to be perused by Members, were again called for and read. The Tenor whereof follows, *viz.* Considering how necessary it is, That Presbyteries be very tender of giving any Ground of Complaint in their planting Parishes *tanquam Jure devoluto*, and that any who judge themselves lesed, may have an Opportunity of being heard by Superior Judicatories, and if wronged may beredressed; and that there were some Overtures concerning this Case transmitted by the General Assembly in Anno 1711, to the several Presbyteries of this Church, that they might send their Remarks thereupon to the ensuing General Assembly before the same should be turned into standing Acts; but no Returns having been made thereto from Presbyteries by Reason of a Law soon after made, restoring to Patrons the Power of Presentation, a Grievance which this Church hath always complained of from the Reformation; it is therefore overtured, That when a Parish falleth Vacant, the Presbytery in whose Bounds it lyes, shall, with all Diligence, declare and intimate the Vacancy, and if there be no legal Eldership settled therein, according to the Constitution of this Church, the Presbytery shall not proceed to plant upon the *Jus devolutum*, until they first use all proper Means to establish such an Eldership in the Parish; as also, That before they proceed to plant upon the *Jus devolutum*, they shall make Intimation from the Pulpit of that Parish, that the Right is devolved upon the Presbytery, but that they desiring to have the Vacancy comfortably planted with the Consent of all concerned, do advertise and invite Heretors and Elders, or Heretors and Heads of Families, where there is not a legal Eldership settled, to give in Lists to the Presbytery of such well qualified Persons as they incline to call to

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the Holy Ministry. If such Lists shall be brought in to the next Meeting of the Presbytery, either by the Heretors and Elders jointly, or by the Heretors apart, or the Elders apart, or Heads of Families where there is no legal Eldership, then the Presbytery shall appoint one of their Number to preach in that Congregation, and moderate in a Meeting of the Heretors and Elders for chusing one out of the said Lists to be their Minister, and the Moderator of that Meeting shall attest a Call to him, unto whom the Plurality of Heretors have given their Suffrages; as also, that due and timeous Intimation be made of the Day of this Meeting, that all concerned may be advertised to attend the same. The Elders likewise should try the Inclinations of the Heads of Families, and Persons of good Reputation in that Parish, and have Regard thereto in their Choice of a Minister, and where there are no Elders, that the Presbytery sound the Inclinations of the People; and if it shall happen, that there be not a Majority of Heretors concurring in the said Call, then the Presbytery shall not proceed to a Settlement on the said Call, till such Heretors be dealt with for their Consent and Concurrence, and till the Advice of the Synod be had in that Case, and that Synods in judging of such Cases, shall have special Regard to such Heretors as are well affected, and join in Communion with this Church, as now by Law established; but if upon Advertisement given, no Lists shall be brought in to the Presbytery from the vacant Parish, then the Presbytery shall make a List of two or three, whom they judge well qualified, and fit for undertaking the Ministry in that Parish, and shall order Intimation of their List to be made to the vacant Congregation, that any of the Congregation may attend the next Meeting of the Presbytery, and shew which of these in the Presbytery's List, they desire to be their Minister, or to object against any of the said List, if they have any Thing of Moment to offer, or even to add to the said List any other fit Person, which Addition the Presbytery shall admit; and the Presbytery shall use Means both to know the Inclinations of Heretors and People, and to obtain their Consent unto the Person they most incline to, before they give a presbyterial Call to one of the List proposed; and if after all Pains taken, and dealing with the Heretors, Elders and People of the vacant Parish, in Order to their comfortable Settlement with their own good liking and Consent, there be no hope of Success, then the Presbytery may proceed to the said Settlement; but if any of the Heretors, Elders, or Heads of Families, or Persons of good Reputation in the Parish do compare before the Presbytery, and offer Objections against the Person to be settled, either as to his Orthodoxy, Literature, Life and Conversation, or other ministerial Qualifications, the Presbytery, before they proceed

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ceed to the Settlement, shall take Trial of the said Objections; and if any Difficulty occur, or that there appear any Heat or Division in the Parish about a Call, the Presbytery shall not proceed, until they have the Advice and Direction of the Synod, and shall acquaint the Parish, that they may attend the Synod to hear their Determination; or if there be any Appeal from the Presbytery's Procedure, they shall sist the foresaid Settlement, till the Time appointed for the next Meeting of the Synod, or General Assembly appealed to; and if the Appellants do not then insist in their Appeal, the Presbytery may proceed, as if the same had never been made; but if the Appellants do insist, then the Judicatory appealed to shall discuss the same without Delay, and give Sentence therein as they shall see Cause; and if there be a further Appeal from the Synod to the General Assembly, the foresaid Settlement shall likewise stop, until the Time appointed for the Meeting of the next General Assembly, unless the Appellants do pass from the said Appeal; but because some Persons from a litigious and disaffected Humor may oppose the Settlement of a vacant Church, and appeal with a Design to continue the Vacancy for some Time longer: Therefore, to prevent this, That it be declared, That unless those who do oppose the planting of any vacant Parish, do timely give in in Writing under their Hands Objections against the Settlement designed, and give in also the Reasons of their Appeal within ten Days after the entering of it in Manner appointed by the Acts of the General Assembly, the same shall not be regarded, nor the Appeal received without it; but the Settlement designed shall go on, as if the Objections and Appeal had never been made; and the Judicatory shall intimate this to the Objectors or Appellants at making the said Objections or Appeals. And, Lastly, That in Case of Vacancies in Royal Burrows, besides Heretors and Elders, Regard likewise be had to the Magistrates and Town Council in the Election of Ministers to supply their Vacancies.

FINIS.